

A visit with Sadie Ferguson

see pg. 10

BPW meet the candidates night

see pg. 3

Severe weather week proclaimed

see pg. 10

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 58, No. 10 USPS 428-080 Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C. Thursday, March 10, 1988 30 CENTS

Jackson, Bush win primary

For the first time in history, the residents of North Carolina and Perquimans County had the opportunity to vote in a presidential election primary, but voter turnout was slim. In Perquimans County out of 4961 registered voters only 1609 went to the polls to vote on Tuesday, and the overwhelming majority as expected were democrats. As for their their choices, the county voted as follows: Democrats: Jesse Jackson led the county with 580 votes followed by Gore, 508 votes, Dukakis, 172 votes, Gephardt, 85 votes, Hart, 32 votes, Simon, 10 votes, and Babbitt with 8 votes. 53 people voted no preference. On the republican side, the voting went as follows: George Bush won the county with 76 votes followed by Dole with 31 votes, Robertson with 27 votes, Kemp with eight votes, DuPont with two votes, and Haig with one vote. Six people voted no preference. These results were unofficial as of press time, but Buddy Tilley, chairman of the Perquimans County Board of Elections stated that he did not feel they would change.

High School to present musical

Students at Perquimans County High School will be among the first in the nation to produce a new stage musical featuring the characters from the nationally syndicated "Funky Winkerbean" comic strip. The musical will be presented on March 26, 2988 at 7:30 p.m. at Perquimans County High School Auditorium. The musical, "Funky Winkerbean's Homecoming" by Tom Batiuk and Andy Clark, deals with all of the activities of the comic strips fictional "Westview High School" during the week before the big homecoming football game. Fans of the popular comic strip, which appears in over 350 newspapers nationally, are sure to recognize their favorite characters from the strip including Les Moore, who will be played by Alan Kirby; Holly Budd, the "air-headed" majorette, who will be portrayed by Christy Waters, and of course Harry L. Dinkle, the "World's Greatest Band Director", who will be played by Reggie White. Some of the prominent songs in the show include "We Are The Band", "I Want To Be Homecoming Queen", "Why Can't I Be Popular", "I Want A Hunk", and "Mean Ol' Bus Drivin' Man". The production at Perquimans County High School is being directed by Ms. Lynda Perry, with pit band conduction by David Ziemba, PCHS band director, and choral direction by Lyn Winslow. This performance will be among the very first in the nation as the musical was only completed and published within the past few months. Tickets can be purchased at Perquimans County High School Library, through a Drama Club student, or at Perry Paint & Glass Co. in Elizabeth City.

District poster contest held

On March 3, 1988 winners of the Albemarle Conservation Poster Contest were honored at a luncheon sponsored jointly by the Albemarle EMC, and the Albemarle Soil Conservation District at Angler's Cove Restaurant in Bethel. The judges for the district contest included Joe Tunnell, Sr., a retired vocational education teacher from Perquimans County, Betty Dail, Extension Home Economics Agent from Camden County, and Roger Spivey of the North Carolina Forestry Service in Chowan County. The following students were winners from the district. Fourth grade: 1st place, Lisa Lambiase, 2nd place, Crystal Mason, fifth grade: 1st place, Rhenn Parks, 2nd place, Jason Joyner, sixth grade: 1st place, Heather Stallings, and 2nd place, Trea Howard. Perquimans only winner in the district contest was Heather Stallings. The Perquimans County winners included: fourth grade, 1st place, Alison Boone, 2nd place, Angel Talmadge, fifth grade, 1st place, Shannon Long, 2nd place, Hope Stallings, and the sixth grade winners were Heather Stallings, 1st place, and Georgia Lamb, 2nd place. All of the district winner's posters will go onto the competition in the state. Favors for all the winners, which were presented during the luncheon, were provided by the Albemarle Conservation District.



Pettigrew Library recently purchased a new bookmobile for use in Perquimans County. Pictured in front of the bookmobile which bears the library's new logo are left to right: Maria Hoffman, Perquimans Librarian, Marti Smith, Director of Pettigrew Library, and Victor Eure, who is in charge of services provided by the bookmobile.

County library has new bookmobile

Residents of Perquimans County will soon notice that we have a new bookmobile in the county. On Monday the Pettigrew Regional Library gave the Perquimans County Commissioners a chance to visit the bookmobile during their meeting, and later held an open house of the bookmobile for the community. Bookmobile service is oriented towards providing high quality library services to underserved segments of the community, including rural areas, senior citizens, and homebound persons. Currently the bookmobile serves four counties including Perquimans with two stops a month. From 1982 to 1986 the total circulation of the bookmobile has grown almost 100 percent, and in fiscal year 1986-87 had a circulation of 45,213 books. By purchasing a second bookmobile, the library feels that they will be better able to provide services to the local area, and they will also be able to improve the cost effectiveness of bookmobile services in the area. The new bookmobile will also provide additional library materials for circulation.

Environmental association organizes

The Albemarle area now has an organization for people who are interested in environmental concerns, The Albemarle Environmental Association. The association was founded earlier this year by several residents of the area including Perquimans County resident Carolyn Hess, and Jim and Linda Davis of Camden County, who were looking for a group with similar concerns to join. When they could not find a group of this kind in the area, they started their own. Carolyn Hess stated recently that prior to moving to this area from Long Island, New York, she had been very active in such a group, and had also served as curator for a science museum, which provides her with the educational background for such an undertaking. Since its formation the group has grown to approximately 25 to 30 members. All the members of the group are volunteers, who are interested and dedicated to learning more about the environment, and working with others to manage and preserve it. Upon their establishment the group choose the following goals for the organization: Investigation, education, and preservation of the environment. Since the group was organized, they have been working diligently soliciting help. At the present time, they are planning educational programs on environmental issues, fun projects and they published their first newsletter in January. The group recently held their first meeting of the association in Elizabeth City. The meeting was on Monday, February 29th, at the Jaycee building and the purpose of the meeting was twofold. First, they hoped to recruit new members, and second, they met with Dave McNaught, Executive Director of the Pamlico-Tar River Foundation (PTRF).

PTRF is a grass roots organization that focuses on the environmental concerns of the Pamlico-Tar River watershed. PTRF also recently received funding to form a citizens monitoring network for the monitoring water quality in the Pamlico. McNaught spoke with members of the Albemarle Environmental Association at their meeting, and discussed the citizens network, addressed the environmental concerns of this area, and addressed how local residents can make a difference in the Albemarle Area. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the Albemarle Environmental Association, or if you would like additional information on the group you can contact Carolyn Hess during the day at 426-9563, or Jim and Linda Davis at 336-4778 during the evening hours. Membership in the association is five dollars yearly.

Holiday Island addresses environmental concerns

The Holiday Island Property Owner's Association recently established an environmental committee, and the two groups are busy identifying environmental concerns, which exist on the island. The committees establishment and the property owner's concern about environmental issues comes in response to Governor Martin's statewide programs, APES (the Albemarle Pamlico Estuary Study, and the Governor's Coastal Initiative. Both programs deal with environmental issues facing North Carolina, especially coastal North Carolina. In response to those two programs, and following some complaints by residents on the island regarding possible violations of environmental laws, the property owners association initiated a survey to identify environmental problems which exist at Holiday Island. The survey is being conducted by the Holiday Island maintenance department, and all property is being looked at, both camping and residential lots. The survey is looking at everything from illegal dumping of raw sewage, drainage from washing machines into ditches, road drainage, storm water run-off, and more. The survey is also being conducted to determine if any illegal dumping is being done into illegal drywells, the Albemarle Sound, or any of the numerous canals which exist on the island. The survey also deals with problems such as septic tank overflows. According to Jake Hardison, President of the Holiday Island Property Owner's Association, and Stan Busted, chairman of the Holiday Island Environmental Committee, the island survey is now approximately 25 to 30 percent complete. At this time, Hardison said it is impossible to know how many violations of environmental laws exist on the island because the study is not finished; however, Hardison and Busted both indicated they feel there are problems at Holiday Island which will have to be corrected. Hardison stated in an interview over the weekend that the property owner's association knows there are violations, and they are working to clear them up. The association has been working on this issue for over three months, and warnings to residents of Holiday Island have appeared in their newsletters, and recently the civic club has become involved by preparing programs which will focus on many of the environmental issues which exist at Holiday Island. According to Hardison many of the alleged violations, which supposedly exist on the island have come from resident's ignorance of the state's environmental laws. Hardison said the intent of the survey currently being conducted is to identify problems, identify the source of those problems, and to work on getting the problems taken care of with a minimum amount of fanfare. The property owners association has been addressing the issue for over three months, and Hardison stated that following the completion of the survey, if identified violations are not corrected by property owners, a list of the violations and the violators would be turned over to the proper authorities. In this case, the proper authorities are the health department, and the department of environmental management. Hardison added that he hopes this will not be necessary, stating that he feels property owners on the island have had plenty of time and notice about correcting problems which exist. The property owner's association has no enforcement authority in dealing with violations, but according to Hardison they will assist local authorities in getting violations which persist taken care of. Hardison stated it is the board of governor's hope that property owners will solve their own problems, and it is the intention of the board to follow-up on violations, which are identified in the survey to make sure they are taken care of. Hardison and Busted stated during the interview that alleged violations exist in both the camping and residential section of Holiday Island. Presently the residential section of Holiday Island is serviced by individual septic tank systems, and the camping areas on the island are serviced by a wastewater treatment plant. Currently in the camping area, which consist of some 500 developed lots approximately 200 lots have sewer connections available to them. The other camping lots are served by dumping and comfort station in the area. According to Hardison, even though dumping facilities are available, it has been alleged that some may be choosing not to use the facilities, but until the survey is complete the number of violations, if any, will be unknown. Violations of environmental laws is not a new problem at Holiday Island. Several residents of Holiday Island have alleged that environmental violations have existed for sometime, possibly as far back as four years. But up until now, a concerted effort has not been undertaken by the property owner's association to get things cleared up. According to several sources, some cases regarding environmental violations were referred to the Perquimans County Health Department four years ago, but Hardison and Busted said they were under the impression that those cases had been cleared up. Hardison was quick to point out that he was not on the board at that time, and added that he did not know the specifics regarding those violations. Hardison and Busted both stated that the board of governors and all the residents of Holiday Island are concerned about the quality of life there, and they want to do everything possible to clear up any problems which exist. Holiday Island is well known for its fishing and wildlife, and the board of governors is concerned about anything which might be going on to destroy the fishing and wildlife. Hardison also stated that he feels Holiday Island is not alone in facing these environmental problems and issues. "I am sure if surveys were done of Perquimans County other violations would be found," he said. Hardison and Busted both echoed feelings that communities, such as Holiday Island, located along the edge of the Albemarle Sound and other bodies of water have a responsibility to be supportive of the governor's efforts or any efforts being made to clean-up the environment. In closing they stated that is the purpose of the island's environmental survey.



Members of the Perquimans County Water Department maintenance staff work in the New Hope area of Perquimans County installing a water tap.

County Water Department; providing clean water

Without water most of the residents in Perquimans County would be lost. The Perquimans County Water Department plays an important role in most of our daily lives, and most of the time we don't even think about it. Rus Chappell is the Water Department Maintenance Supervisor, and he has been with the water department in Perquimans County since its beginning. Chappell and the other workers in the water department including William Stallings, Richard Copeland, Charlie Hughes, and Grant Modlin have the responsibility of taking care of all complaints lodged by local residents, they make sure that the water plant runs efficiently and without problems, install new service, and do the routine maintenance for the department. Valerie Price is the deputy water collector and her duties include taking care of all work orders for the department, taking all the department's complaints, waiting on the counter, and handling all the collection of water bills. Recently the water department has been going through a tough time, and there have been many complaints about water quality in Perquimans County. Those problems were due to renovations, which were done to the water system, and according to Chappell the problems are slowly but surely clearing up. The county water department operates two plants. One is located in Bethel and one in Winfall, North Carolina. The plants operate 24 hours a day, and it takes the department between four and six hours each day to regenerate the water by backwashing it, adding softeners, and checking the filters daily. The water department's monthly revenue averages just around \$30,000, and for the past several years they have been working in the red, but Chappell says he hopes that next year they will break even. They came very close this year. Local residents on the water system are charged with the responsibility of reading their own meters, but twice a year the department reads the meters and reconciles accounts. Price and Chappell both stated recently that is when they receive the most complaints, but the added me-

ters can be checked and sometimes mistakes are found. The water department charges several fees including tap fees which are \$300.00 for a ¾ inch tap, \$375 for a 1 inch tap, and \$750 for a 2 inch tap. The department also charges \$15 for a retapping fee is someone's water is cut off. Price stated she would like to remind local residents that water bills are mailed on a rotating schedule and people are allowed 15 days to pay their bill after receiving it. If bills are not paid withing the 15 days the department adds a 10 percent penalty. Running the water department is becoming harder and harder each year, and Chappell is quick to point out that more and more tests are being required to ensure water quality. Perquimans County has over 300 miles of pipes, which carry our water, so the next time you get a drink think of the water department. If you have any questions or complaints call them at 426-8230 or 426-8585, they'll be happy to help you.

Lady Pirates place second in tournament

ECSU was the scene of a heated match between the girls of Perquimans High School and the girls of Gates High School as they played on Friday evening for the Albemarle area conference tournament championship. Blood pressures rose and excitement filled the gym as the game came to the closing seconds. The Lady Pirates had led most of the game, and at one point even held a 13 point lead over the Lady Barons, but the Lady Pirates saw their hopes dashed in the closing seconds as Yolanda Weathers a sophomore for Gates hit a shot at the buzzer putting Gates up 62-60 for the win. An extremely disappointed Harrell Thatch, coach of the Lady Pirates said he would have rather lost by 30 points than to have lost such a close game, but Thatch added that the girls played their hearts out. Perquimans missed eight free throws in the final three minutes of the game, which allowed Gates to edge closer, and in the final minutes when tempers were flaring the game took a turn for the worst. With 10 seconds left on the time clock, Doris Walker a Perquimans senior, and their leading scorer was fouled by a Gates Player, April Harrell. Perquimans was ahead 60-58. Harrell grabbed Doris around the knees sending her to the floor, and Doris who apparently felt that Harrell used to much force in fouling her turned and kicked Harrell. At that point, Walker was ejected from the ballgame, and Thatch called on Darbie Ward from the bench to shoot Walker's free throws. Ward missed the front end of the one and one, and April Harrell, who was awarded two shoots for Walker's kicking foul, sunk them both making the score even at 60-60. Due to a technical foul called on Perquimans, Gates received possession of the ball, and Weathers shot the winning basket. Mike Felton, Coach of Gates, said following the game that he was not pleased with the defensive play of his team, and Doris Walker played havoc with them all night long. Doris Walker and the Lady Pirates on Friday evening in terms of scoring with 23 points followed by Petteway, who scored 17 points. Perquimans record is now 17-6, but they will move into the play-offs, and their first opponent will be Bath High School.